

ITEM #40

DOCUMENTS OF THE COUNCIL AGAINST COMMUNIST AGGRESSION
March 1956

(Reissue June 1961)

A PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION OF HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT GROUP AGAINST COMMUNISM

By

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Editor's Note:- In February 1956 the Executive Secretary addressed a city wide Philadelphia high school students' conference on the subject, which was ignored generally, but, as is so often our only good fortune in press coverage, denounced bitterly by the communist Daily Worker a few days later, which by some fluke got news of the address. In early March of that year Mr. Etter made this first proposal to which there has been a positive chain reaction. On March 28 the foreign editor of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin discussed the Council proposal in his column and The Saturday Evening Post ran an approving editorial of its own. In September 1956 the Foundation for Religious Action in the Social and Civil Order convoked a conference breakfast at meeting of the American Political Science Association, out of which grew the Committee on American Public Education on Communism. In the late fall of 1956 the Pennsylvania Superintendent of Public Instruction, Charles H. Boehm, announced that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania would develop a program of instruction for its fourth year high schools' curriculum guidance. The Saturday Evening Post gave further editorial support and as of this date, November 22, 1957, the American Legion's National Executive Committee took the lead in calling on their members to work with local and state school officials to provide suitable courses designed to deepen the understanding of American democratic institutions and expose fallacies of Communism. This action was duplicated and improved upon by resolution of the American Bar Association. This research and development in ideas is the principal function which our Council, without funds or budget of our own, can serve. We take a modest portion of the credit for Mr. Etter and the Council.

Actually, the Boston Public School system had plans for such an addition to the curriculum as early as the 1940s, postponed of actual institution until harsh realities of communist aggression as principal enemy of peace, as well as liberty in post-World War II world made themselves evident. The Indianapolis School System has integrated a course in the value of democratic society and the nature of the communist challenge to and assault upon that society and set of values into its social science curriculum. A few large cities like Chicago are inching toward such a program; Richmond, Dallas and now Tacoma, Washington, School Boards are in motion. Florida's legislature proposes to make such courses mandatory for all high school seniors.

The Institute for American Strategy turned its entire Seventh Annual National Military-Industrial and Educational Conference, in Chicago, in April 1961, to this subject, and the proceedings of this Conference, including this Council's Secretary's modest contribution on Labor's Contribution and Faith in Democracy in Education and Education in Democracy as victorious answer of the free to the slave society, will shortly be available from the Institute at Room 955 - 140 S. Dearborn Street, Chicago 3, Ill.

The American people are turning to their local-state public school system, which they once used in north and west to make a single nation out of the divergent immigrants from all the world, and even in the south, where it at first perpetuated a division, to train American citizenry in the issues of a free world of which the U. S. is unavoidably the leader fighting for its life against the would-be world slavery of communist imperialism and aggression.

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We bow to this increasingly obvious decision of the people to use their government institutions for the defense of liberty in view of shortness of time, in this respect, as we did to the Orlando Group when they took their Freedom Academy proposal to the Congress of the United States and with some assistance from us won virtually unanimous Senate passage in 1960, though tragically frustrated in the House, so far. It is still possible that if irrelevancies and personality eccentricities, bureaucratic jealousies and ambitions delay this Freedom Academy conception too long this session, some influential governors may turn to their great state universities and even private corporations and foundations to take hold, but because it was the first lead, we think many might read Mr. Etter's plan, which was first, with profit. (A.G.M.)

" . . . As soon as we are strong enough to defeat capitalism as a whole, we shall immediately take it by the scruff of the neck . . ."

Lenin - Speech to Moscow Party Nuclei Secretaries,
November 26, 1920.

"The object of the party is to exploit all and any conflicting interests among the surrounding capitalist groups and governments with the view to the disintegration of capitalism."

Stalin - "The Party Before and After the Seizure
of Power," Pravda, No. 190, August 28, 1921.

Khrushchev- (To Western Newsmen - 1957 - "We will bury you")

A PLAN FOR THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH OF AMERICA ON THE DANGERS AND AIMS OF COMMUNIST TOTALITARIANISM

Background

There are approximately 7,500,000 high school pupils in the United States. Each year, roughly 1,875,000 students are graduated from high schools, and of this number from one-fourth to one-third go on either to high schools of learning, teachers' colleges or to technical schools of one sort or another.

From these broad estimates we must assume that each year approximately 1,350,000 high school graduates go out into the world without further formal education.

During the past year I have availed myself of the opportunity of talking with hundreds of high school students and graduates as well as college students in many parts of the country. I believe my conversations prove beyond any shadow of doubt that there exists in this country among vast majorities of these younger citizens an appalling and very dangerous ignorance of Communism in general and, particularly, of its aims and the means of attaining those aims.

While it is true that a very small percentage of our high school graduates may acquire a degree of knowledge on Communist aims through informational media in this country, it cannot be denied that a shocking number of our young people today are going out into life totally unprepared to recognize the subtleties of Communist aggression.

This general ignorance at the high school level is particularly menacing because, for many, formal education has come to an end, leaving thousands -- even millions -- of our young citizens vulnerable to the potentialities inherent in the well-known Communist use of ignorant and naive peoples. Moreover, the fact of higher education does not in itself serve as a guarantee against this type of ignorance; for most students in universities and colleges major in scientific, technical or liberal arts courses which avoid altogether or consider only briefly the question of Communism. To make matters worse, I find that many of the nation's teachers are either lacking themselves in a knowledge of what this Communist menace means to America or they are in considerable fear that the mere mention of the word "Communism" in the classroom may open them to suspicion of other teachers or parents.

Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this plan is to establish a practical and effective means through which the young high school student of America may acquire, during his or her senior academic year, at least a basic knowledge of the nature and aims of Communist totalitarianism; to ensure that such imparted knowledge will provide the student with an awareness of Communist forces, otherwise hidden or disguised, which seek to undermine America and the American way of life; thereby minimizing the possibility of some of our young people becoming the unwitting handmaidens of Communist-inspired causes -- subtle causes which may develop at any time among higher schools of learning, government organizations, the armed forces, labor unions, industrial enterprises, farmers' organizations, civic groups and social and cultural clubs.

Operation of the Plan (General)

This plan will be carried out through the operation of a non-political, non-profit organization to be called the ASSOCIATION FOR THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF THE AMERICAN INTERMEDIATE STUDENT (AEAIS).

AEAIS will derive its funds solely from the voluntary contributions of private citizens and patriotic civic and educational organizations. Contributors will automatically become members of the Association and shall be entitled to receive reports on the work and progress of the Association.

The Association will undertake to provide the following services to high school students in their senior academic year:

1. Conduct special classes during regular school hours; such classes to be conducted by eminent Americans, lecturers, authors, public officials and experts on the subject of Communist techniques and Communist objectives in America and abroad.
2. Conduct from time to time forums where the student may acquire on a more personal basis additional facts on the nature of Communist totalitarianism.
3. Collect and tabulate student reactions and questions concerning the Communist problem. (In this case, AEAIS refrains from using student names. Individual reactions, questions or opinions are to be put forth anonymously.)
4. Provide the student with published material suitable for his acquisition of further knowledge.
5. Provide occasional visual aid classes (movies, slides or photographs) on pertinent Communist problems.
6. Furnish exhibits on school premises, where students may acquire additional information.

Non-Political Nature of the Association

It is mandatory that this Association remain non-political in all its activities. Speakers provided by the Association must refrain from making the nation's schools into platforms for political pronouncements. The primary interest of the Association must necessarily lie in the young people of America and in ensuring that these young citizens are provided with facts concerning Communist aggression. (Example: The Association shall not concern itself with the domestic political considerations in the pros and cons of recognition of Communist China; but it will confine itself to imparting knowledge to the student of the Communist techniques used in the subversion and subjugation of the Chinese people).

What the Association Hopes to Accomplish

The Association hopes not only to provide the student with a background on that which challenges the freedom of the American way of life but it will seek to let the student know, through eminent speakers and lecturers that he, the student, is not being ignored or kept in the dark on the destiny of his nation. The Association seeks to convey to the student that he too, along with his older fellow citizens has a privilege, a responsibility to participate in the future of America. Unfortunately, Communism has challenged America and the meaning of America. To ignore Communism, to keep your young people in ignorance of the facts is to deny them the tools with which to defend and save the nation.

This is the meaning of the plan.

Council Against Communist Aggression

Approved For Release 2004/11/01 : CIA-RDP88-01315R000200340002-7
A committee of correspondence for dissemination of democracy's information in aid of World Freedom—Deminform

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VACLAV LASKA
MEXICO, D. F.

July 13, 1960

Dear Correspondent:

On July 8, that williest of the Soviet conspirators against free nations, Anastas I. Mikoyan, in Khrushchev's absence on his Austrian propaganda mission, expressed optimism about reaching an agreement banning nuclear weapon tests. This confirms the deepest pessimism of Senator Dodd's work on the "Eight Fallacies of the Nuclear Test Ban," as recently finally revised for us for our Item #79. The Soviets, having wrecked every other proceedings for disarmament and negotiation and booby-trapped our defenseless and ancient B-47 which they shot down over international waters, in vain hope of a repetition of their U-2 coup, can scarcely have kept the nuclear test ban talks going except with a lively anticipation of a one-sided tactical or strategic advantage to be extracted therefrom for themselves. I am, therefore, with permission of our correspondent William Henry Chamberlin, releasing to you his rather neglected piece on Dangerous Delusions from The Wall Street Journal of this June, as our Item #79 of our documents.

We cannot expect too much from the two-party process, and conventions in particular in foreign policy area. My good friend and fellow Democrat Chester Bowles labored long and well on his platform and the rebuke by the explicit anti-recognition of Red China plank to the "We can do business with Hitler, Tojo or Mao bloc of West Coast business and to the Oregon State Senate muddleheads who raised the plea for recognition just as more blood of communist aggression seeps under the Tibet, Nepal and Indian door, is a well deserved platform rebuke to these and is most welcome. However, the basic concept is still static, defensive and traditional and does not yet dare dream of decisive victory in the non-military contest in either the neutral or captive nation areas.

The present Congress has done better. On the very eve of its recess the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 30 virtually unanimously reported most favorably the Douglas-Mundt Freedom Commission and Academy Senate Bill 1689 as amended. This is the only basically new and fresh proposal

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in the area of rolling back communist aggression since Truman's Point Four proposal of 1949 and if the campaign of 1960 should produce a candidate wh like that of twelve years ago, gives backing to as a basic, and in this ca also virtually new departure as the Freedom Academy, it will have served the American people and the cause of freedom well.

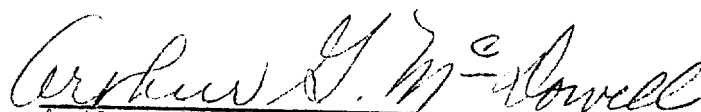
Finally, we have been prodded into motion to do something to salve the ver sore American public and (if such exists) diplomatic conscience in the Ban Jensen case. For some time we have been talking with attorneys, fund rais and other experts about raising a memorial fund for college scholarship an education aid for the five Bang-Jensen children who with their mother are the living victims of our shameful surrender which permitted a gallant friend of the U. S. and freedom to be driven to, first his professional th to his physical, destruction. This tragedy except for the forthcoming rep of the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate and a belated full-len book next december seems otherwise fated to close in shame and silence for America.

Rebecca West from England rebuked our American frittering away of time ove: details, as over the technical procedures in the case, by writing from England on the occasion of the death of her only and beloved sister, that "There is no way of effectively grieving for the dead except by being good to the living," and offering the first subscription to such a fund.

We are now assembling a Committee and Board of Trustees for such a fund, made up of personal friends of Bang-Jensen, such as Harold Miner of CARE and William Jovanovich, President of Harcourt Brace, Frank Trager of New York University, and a Subcommittee of our Council with Roy Brewer as Chair man, Lewis Johnson of New York AFL-CIO as Secretary, plus Herbert Philbrick George Counts, Sal Hoffmann, William Buckley, Marx Lewis, a treasurer yet to be named, and others of prominence in stirring public conscience whose acceptance is anticipated over the weeks between now and September 30. The will be no professional money raisers or expenses. The printing and mailir bill will be borne, as usual, by the Upholsterers' International Union whic furnishes administrative and office expenses of our Council, save for a small contingent fund supplied by our individual members.

Our Fund may well not be impressive under the circumstances, but when raise every cent will go to the purpose for which it is set up. Keep your con- science and your purse in reserve for early fall when you hear from our special subcommittee which desires to complete its entire campaign before the sad anniversary of Bang-Jensen's tragic death, around the ironic Americ Thanksgiving Day of 1959.

Sincerely yours,


Arthur G. McDowell, Executive
Secretary-Treasurer

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Encl.

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Wednesday, June 15, 1960
The Wall Street Journal

DANGEROUS DELUSIONS

There Are Four Specious Ideas About Obtaining Peace Which
Can Be Fatal to Our National Survival

By William Henry Chamberlin

The awesome nature of modern nuclear weapons breeds fear. Fear breeds appeasement, disguised under some nicer name, such as flexibility or realism. Appeasement leads to wishful thinking. Wishful thinking is prolific of delusions, of which the following four are prevalent in the Western world.

(1) That periodic talks among heads of governments are an antidote to war.

This idea seems to have been reinforced by a statement attributed to Sir Winston Churchill during a visit to the United States in 1955: That "jaw jaw jaw is better than war war war." If Churchill really said this, it cannot be counted among his finer or more profound observations.

For the idea that talk, when there is nothing particular to talk about, has any effect, one way or the other, on the war-making intentions of a totalitarian dictator is mere self-deception. The conversations that went on in Washington between Japanese and American representatives for months before Pearl Harbor did nothing to ward off the Japanese attack, which was actually delivered before the negotiations were formally broken off.

To imagine, as Western advocates of a summit meeting often did, that Khrushchev could be cajoled and beguiled into a whole range of top level conversations was seriously to underestimate both the ruthlessness and the intelligence of the Soviet dictator. If he thought there would be no effective Western military response he would be quite capable of pouncing on West Berlin during a summit meeting, or immediately after a conference which had not given him what he wanted.

There is no relationship whatever between "jaw jaw jaw" and war, or peace. It is not talk, not even talk with the tongues of angels, that will stop an aggressor dead in his tracks. It is only the prospect of devastating retaliation that will accomplish that objective. So long as Western defenses are adequate there need be no fear that the omission of summit meetings will mean war. And no amount of such meetings would be of any avail if defenses were relaxed beyond the safety point.

(2) That one-sided concessions and retreats under force or threat of force will obtain peace.

Cause and Occasion

It is easy, and rather cheap, and completely misleading, to confuse the occasion for war with the cause of war. To take an illustration from American history, the Civil War became inevitable after the firing on Fort Sumter. But no historian, North or South, has ever been so foolish as to suggest that America's great fratricidal struggle was fought over the possession of an indefensible offshore island near the coast of South Carolina.

An assurance of permanent peace would be so desirable that there would be a case for making almost any single sacrifice, not involving dishonor, that would create such an assurance. But, from the time of the Peloponnesian War to the days of Hitler, Stalin, Khrushchev and Mao Tse-tung, the overwhelming weight of evidence is that peace cannot be bought by piecemeal surrender to predatory dictators. Every concession merely stimulates the appetite for more.

(3) That innocence is a guaranty against assault and subjugation from without.

There is an almost breathtaking irrelevance in the view, sometimes advanced by men whose knowledge and experience should have taught them better, that the only threat of Communism comes from unsatisfactory social and economic conditions at home. It is often suggested that, if this or that country doesn't get its act together, it will "go Communist."

But there is no significant case when a people voluntarily voted in Communism, and this holds true for Russia and China, as well as for the smaller countries which were Sovietized by the forward sweep of the Red Army in the last phase of the war. The only free election, based on universal suffrage, ever held in Russia was the Constituent Assembly, in which about a quarter of the members were Communists, or Bolsheviks, as they were then called. Because this assembly, although most of its members were in far left field politically, refused to ratify the seizure of power by the Communists, it was almost immediately dissolved by armed force; and there have never been conditions for a free election in the Soviet Union since. There has never been a plausibly free vote in Red China.

No Envy of Reds

Nor has there been a single authenticated case of a people accepting Communism because of envy of Soviet conditions. It was not because of superior social conditions in Russia that Hungary is still a Soviet dependency. It is because the Soviet Army had plenty of tanks and the Hungarian freedom fighters did not.

Any nation that trusted to innocence of purpose and advanced social legislation to ward off the danger of Communist aggression would be inviting a very rude and unpleasant awakening.

(4) That surrender to the Soviet will, through unilateral disarmament, would be a satisfactory way out.

The parrot-like cry, "Ban the Bomb," has been the theme song of many British mass meetings and protest marches from the British nuclear installation at Aldermaston. Needless to say there have been no responsive protest marches from any Soviet nuclear station; indeed Soviet citizens would experience considerable unpleasantness if they tried to spot the location of such a station.

The philosopher-mathematician Bertrand Russell (less well known by his inherited title of Earl Russell) is one among a number in England, a smaller number in the United States, who have publicly expressed the view that Soviet occupation would be a smaller evil than a nuclear war. What is overlooked by those who glibly talk of "rather being Red than dead" is that life would go on in Communist serfdom, and that the life of the serf is neither happy nor even secure.

This point is brought out with fictional vividness in the contemporary novel, "When the Kissing Had to Stop," by Constantine FitzGibbon. Starting out with scenes of unilateral disarmament and anti-American demonstrations, the author carries the story to the point where a radical leftist government takes over and obtains the withdrawal of the American bases. Then, before the appeasers can put on a really good celebration, Soviet troops move in and the first decree is that half the population of Britain is to be deported to Siberia, in the interest of "streamlining the British economy."

Grave as are the problems posed by nuclear armaments, cowardly acceptance of slavery would not provide a satisfactory answer, even to those who advocate such a solution as a lesser evil. If the West were decadent enough to accept such a proposition, even the miserable life of Communist serfdom would not be vouchsafed long. The subject satellite nations of the West would very probably be caught up in the holocaust of a war between the Soviet Union and Red China.

It would be a good thing if these four delusions could be thoroughly threshed out in this year's Presidential campaign.